



Maryland
Department of
the Environment



Maryland
Energy
Administration

Voluntary Agreement

*between the Air and Radiation Administration of the Maryland Department of the Environment
and the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration and the Maryland Energy Administration*

PREAMBLE

Port facilities in Maryland are a major economic engine for the State and region that directly and indirectly support, or are related to nearly 140,000 jobs. These Port facilities must continue to grow in order to provide opportunities to expand economic impacts and create additional employment. The Baltimore Region also faces significant air quality and climate change challenges. Advancing economic opportunity and reducing air emissions from local sources continue to be essential to the public health and welfare of the Baltimore Region and the State.

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA), the Air and Radiation Administration (ARA) of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) (collectively the "Parties") have successfully worked together on projects of mutual interest that have improved air quality and enhanced the Port business environment. These innovative projects and programs have demonstrated both environmental and economic benefits to the region and the State. Since 2008, the Port of Baltimore (POB) has received \$11 million in USEPA grants to upgrade and buy new equipment and vehicles. The POB Diesel Equipment Replacement Program has achieved over 5,100 tons of pollutant reductions since 2008. MDE, MDOT MPA and MEA desire to build on and enhance their prior cooperative efforts. By executing this Agreement, the Parties seek to improve air quality, achieve greenhouse gas reductions, and enhance public health, thereby benefiting the region and the State. They also seek to support a vibrant and thriving Port business environment, thereby benefiting the economic health of the region and the State.

The Parties seek to engage and solicit input from stakeholders, including those that have been underserved and overburdened, and the private sector, when evaluating projects and programs to implement. The Parties commit to working cooperatively to implement projects and programs that reduce air pollutants such as nitrogen oxides and particulate matter and that further the policy objectives of Maryland's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act (GGRA), given the threat that climate change poses to Maryland, including the Baltimore region. This work should include projects and programs to increase climate resiliency and reduce air pollution and climate change impacts in communities.

The purpose of this Voluntary Agreement is to document and confirm the Parties' ongoing commitment to pursue mutually agreeable and cooperative efforts that will sustain and advance the economic health of the Port of Baltimore and protect the environment of the State of Maryland. It is recognized that MDOT MPA can only represent its own programs and actions and not those of private interests at the Port of Baltimore. This Voluntary Agreement also documents and confirms the Parties' commitment to advancing the use of clean energy where practicable.

While this Agreement is intended to help facilitate future cooperative efforts that will support the goals and statutory mission of each Party to this Agreement, the Agreement shall not constitute a partnership, joint venture or create an agency relationship between the Parties. This Agreement does not, nor is it intended to, affect or change any other agreements between the Parties, unless expressly stated herein.

RECITALS

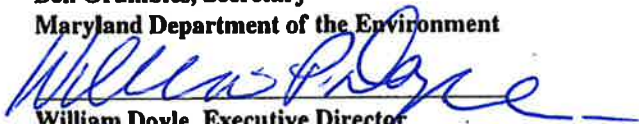
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA, MDE and MEA are committed to the protection and restoration of the environment of the State of Maryland; and
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA, MDE and MEA are committed to advancing the economic health of the State of Maryland through successful Port related business practices and appropriate development activities; and
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA owns several marine terminals and Port facilities in the State, and has a legislatively mandated mission "to stimulate the flow of waterborne commerce through the State of Maryland in a manner that provides economic benefit to the citizens of the State"; and
- WHEREAS,** stewardship and sustainability of the environment and protection of human health are essential elements of MDOT MPA's mission and have been incorporated into its daily practices as reflected in its ISO 14001:2015 EMS Certification; and
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA has taken innovative and effective actions, implemented operational efficiencies, purchased equipment, and installed upgrades to reduce air emissions; and
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA is implementing innovative technologies to increase energy efficiency and clean energy and is working with MEA and MDE to identify new projects to achieve the Governor's Executive Order 01.01.2019.08 of a 10% reduction in energy consumption; and
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA, MEA, and MDE will collaborate on efforts to identify energy efficiency, alternative fuels, clean energy and energy resiliency opportunities that benefit the state's clean energy, climate and economic development; and workforce goals.
- WHEREAS,** MDOT MPA has conducted and will continue to conduct extensive stakeholder outreach and citizen engagement activities in pursuing its environmental initiatives; and
- WHEREAS,** MDE is Maryland's principal regulatory agency with jurisdiction in the areas of environmental protection and pollution prevention, including air quality and climate change; and
- WHEREAS,** the Parties acknowledge that implementing air quality improvement projects provides an important environmental co-benefit that improves water quality in the Chesapeake Bay; and
- WHEREAS,** MDE has developed and implemented numerous emissions reduction projects in the State that utilized a variety of technologies; and
- WHEREAS,** the Parties will coordinate in identifying funding sources for project implementation including but not limited to government and foundation grant programs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Parties to this Agreement understand that both the operations of MDOT MPA and the air quality challenges facing the State of Maryland are complex, and require increased innovation, funding, and expertise; and
- WHEREAS,** the Parties intend by entering into this Agreement to be better able to address these challenges by, among other things:
- 1) fostering positive interagency coordination, consultation, and cooperation;
 - 2) creating a framework for improving working relationships and for better understanding each other's programs;
 - 3) building trust among the agencies involved in the processes;
 - 4) sharing technical expertise;
 - 5) engaging other stakeholders involved in regional air quality issues; and
 - 6) to the extent possible, promptly sharing data and documents relevant to air quality emissions reduction strategies and implementation plans.

NOW THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE THAT:

1. They will continue to work cooperatively to identify, develop and when appropriate, implement new, cost-effective, voluntary programs to reduce emissions and increase energy efficiency.
2. MDE and MEA will identify and assist MDOT MPA in applying for federal and State grants for these purposes.
3. The Parties will continue to meet in a workgroup and, where appropriate, form new ones on specific areas, including, but not limited to, developing a current emissions inventory, identifying opportunities where MDOT MPA can reduce emissions, and pursuing grant/funding opportunities to implement projects.
4. They will meet periodically to discuss the ongoing efforts and plans for the future.



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Maryland Department of the Environment



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Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Port Administration



Gregory Slater, Secretary
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